

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

**Claims**

- 1           1.       A method for authorizing an access to a table of address correspondence  
2 between a multitask CPU and at least one memory containing several programs, consisting of  
3 calculating, on each task change of the CPU, a signature of at least part of the program  
4 instruction lines, and checking the conformity of this signature with a signature recorded upon  
5 previous execution of the involved program, each signature being associated with a program  
6 identifier.
- 1           2.       The method of claim 1, wherein said signature is calculated by the  
2 implementation of a Hash function.
- 1           3.       The method of claim 1, wherein said memory is a RAM in which are loaded  
2 program lines from a mass storage.
- 1           4.       A processor of multitask execution of several programs, exploiting a table of  
2 correspondence between virtual addresses of the lines of the different programs and physical  
3 addresses of these lines in at least one memory, each correspondence being associated with  
4 an identifier of the involved program, comprising means for calculating a current signature  
5 based on at least part of the program lines in said memory, and means for comparing this  
6 signature with the identifier of the program stored in the correspondence table.
- 1           5.       The processor of claim 4, wherein the identity of the signature and of the  
2 program identifier allows the CPU to execute the instruction of the involved program.
- 1           6.       A method of executing an instruction, comprising:  
2                   generating at a first time a first data set corresponding to a portion of the  
3 instruction;  
4                   determining if the first data set has a predetermined relationship to a second  
5 data set; and  
6                   authorizing execution of the instruction if the first data set has the predetermined  
7 relationship to the second data set.
- 1           7.       The method of claim 6 wherein the relationship comprises the first and second  
2 data sets being identical.

1           8.     The method of claim 6 wherein the second data set corresponds to the portion  
2 of the instruction.

1           9.     The method of claim 6, further comprising generating the second data set at a  
2 second time prior to the first time.

1           10.    The method of claim 6, further comprising executing the instruction at a second  
2 time prior to the first time.

1           11.    The method of claim 6 wherein generating comprises reading the portion from  
2 mass storage.

1           12.    An apparatus for authorizing execution of an instruction, comprising:  
2                   a generator operable to generate a first data set corresponding to a portion of  
3 the instruction; and  
4                   an analyzer operable to determine if the first data set has a predetermined  
5 authorizing relationship to a second data set, the analyzer further operable to authorize  
6 execution of the instruction if the first data set has the predetermined relationship to the second  
7 data set.

1           13.    The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the analyzer is further operable to generate  
2 an authorizing signal if the first data set has the relationship.

1           14.    An electronic system comprising:  
2                   an apparatus for authorizing execution of an instruction, comprising:  
3                   a generator operable to generate a first data set corresponding to a portion of  
4 the instruction; and  
5                   an analyzer operable to determine if the first data set has a predetermined  
6 authorizing relationship to a second data set.

1           15.    An article of manufacture, comprising:  
2                   a machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon to:  
3                   generate at a first time a first data set corresponding to a portion of an  
4 instruction;  
5                   determine if the first data set has a predetermined relationship to a second data  
6 set; and

7 authorize execution of the instruction if the first data set has the relationship.

1 16. An apparatus, comprising:

2 means for generating at a first time a first data set corresponding to a portion of  
3 an instruction;

4 means for determining if the first data set has a predetermined relationship to a  
5 second data set; and

6 means for authorizing execution of the instruction if the first data set has the  
7 predetermined relationship.

1 17. An apparatus for executing an instruction, comprising:

2 a generator operable to generate a first data set corresponding to a portion of  
3 the instruction;

4 an analyzer operable to determine if the first data set has a predetermined  
5 authorizing relationship to a second data set; and

6 a processor operable to execute the instruction if the first data set has the  
7 predetermined relationship to the second data set.